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11/6/2017

Elaine Duke  
Acting Secretary  
Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Ms. Duke:

On behalf of LAZ Parking and its affiliated Companies, I am writing to urge you to continue two programs that provide temporary legal status and work authorization to over 1.2 million immigrants in this country.

I strongly encourage you to pass legislation to extend Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to nationals who have been residing in the United States following natural disasters and wars in their home countries.

Recent data estimates that TPS holders from El Salvador, Honduras and Haiti, by far the majority of the 325,000 total TPS holders, contribute a combined \$4.5 billion in pre-tax wages or salary income annually to our nation's gross domestic product each year.

The hotel industry supports more than 8 million jobs, \$1.1 trillion in U.S. sales, and contributes nearly \$170 billion to the U.S. economy. Our industry relies on thousands of hard-working, committed, and legally employed immigrants to serve our customers. Many TPS and DACA holders work in our industry. If they lose their work permits, we lose valuable employees and must replace them at great expense.

LAZ Parking encourages you to allow over 1.2 million people with these temporary work permits the ability to continue working legally in this country. Our immigrant employees have proven their value to our business and the health of the hospitality industry, and deserve to continue their gainful employment here, allowing them to support themselves and their families.

Thank you for your consideration of our timely request.

Respectfully,

Brian Colwell, PHR  
Senior HR Business Partner



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

February 14, 2018

Mr. Brian Colwell  
Senior HR Business Partner  
LAZ Parking  
15 Lewis Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

Dear Mr. Colwell:

Thank you for your November 6, 2017 letter to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Secretary Nielsen asked that I respond on her behalf.

I appreciate your interest in the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) designations for Haiti, El Salvador, and Honduras. The Secretary of Homeland Security's authority to designate or redesignate a country for TPS and to extend or terminate a country's existing designation is based upon specific statutory criteria. *See* Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) § 244(b). U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is principally responsible for advising the Secretary on TPS issues and implementing the program.

At least 60 days before the current expiration date for a TPS designation, the Secretary must review conditions in the foreign country and, after consultation with other appropriate federal agencies, determine whether the statutory conditions for TPS continue to be met. Under the INA, if the Secretary determines that the conditions for designation are no longer met with respect to a country, the Secretary is required to terminate the designation. *See* INA § 244(b)(1),(3).

After considering information from several U.S. Government sources, on November 20, 2017, former Acting Secretary Duke announced the termination of Haiti's TPS designation after determining that the statutory conditions for its designation no longer continued to be met. To allow for an orderly transition, the former Acting Secretary delayed the effective date by 18 months. Accordingly, Haiti's TPS designation will terminate on July 22, 2019. The 18-month period will provide time for individuals with TPS to arrange for their departure or to seek an alternative lawful immigration status in the United States. Additional information on the termination of Haiti TPS can be found on the USCIS website and in a notice that was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18, 2018.

Secretary Nielsen decided to terminate the TPS designation for El Salvador after considering information from several U.S. Government sources, with a delay of 18 months to allow for an orderly transition before the designation terminates on September 9, 2019. DHS is committed to an orderly transition that will allow time for El Salvador to prepare for the return

Mr. Brian Colwell

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and reintegration of its citizens. USCIS will work with the State Department and the government of El Salvador to help inform relevant stakeholders in-country and in the United States to ensure an orderly return and reintegration of El Salvador's citizens. Additional details on the Secretary's decision and the process for current El Salvador TPS beneficiaries to renew their work authorization documentation until TPS terminates on September 9, 2019, can be found in the notice that was published in the *Federal Register* on January 18, 2018.

In regards to Honduras, former Acting Secretary Duke did not make a determination by the 60-day deadline for Honduras (November 6, 2017), resulting in an automatic six-month extension of the designation. Details regarding this extension and the process for Honduran TPS beneficiaries to re-register can be found on USCIS' website and in the Federal Register notice published on December 15, 2017.

Thank you again for your letter and interest in these important issues. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Francis Cissna". The signature is stylized, with the first letter of each word being large and prominent.

L. Francis Cissna  
Director